

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910454869803321
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Titolo	The second information revolution [[electronic resource] /] / Gerald W. Brock
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Harvard University Press, 2003
ISBN	0-674-02879-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (337 p.)
Classificazione	ZN 3136
Disciplina	384/.0973
Soggetti	Telecommunication Information science Electronic information resources Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 305-310) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- ABBREVIATIONS -- 1 Introduction -- 2 The First Information Revolution -- 3 Technological Origins of the Second Information Revolution, 1940–1950 -- 4 The SAGE Project -- I The Separate Worlds of Computers and Communications, 1950–1968 -- 5 The Early Semiconductor Industry -- 6 The Early Commercial Computer Industry -- 7 The Regulated Monopoly Telephone Industry -- II Boundary Disputes and Limited Competition, 1969–1984 -- 8 Data Communications -- 9 From Mainframes to Microprocessors -- 10 The Computer-Communications Boundary -- 11 Fringe Competition in Long Distance Telephone Service -- 12 Divestiture and Access Charges -- III Interconnected Competition and Integrated Services, 1985–2002 -- 13 Mobile Telephones and Spectrum Reform -- 14 Local Competition and the Telecommunications Act of 1996 -- 15 The Internet and the World Wide Web -- 16 Conclusion -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Thanks to inexpensive computers and data communications, the speed and volume of human communication are exponentially greater than they were even a quarter-century ago. Not since the advent of the telephone and telegraph in the nineteenth century has information technology changed daily life so radically. We are in the midst of what

Gerald Brock calls a second information revolution. Brock traces the complex history of this revolution, from its roots in World War II through the bursting bubble of the Internet economy. As he explains, the revolution sprang from an interdependent series of technological advances, entrepreneurial innovations, and changes to public policy. Innovations in radar, computers, and electronic components for defense projects translated into rapid expansion in the private sector, but some opportunities were blocked by regulatory policies. The contentious political effort to accommodate new technology while protecting beneficiaries of the earlier regulated monopoly eventually resulted in a regulatory structure that facilitated the explosive growth in data communications. Brock synthesizes these complex factors into a readable economic history of the wholesale transformation of the way we exchange and process information. Table of Contents:

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Reviews of this book: The Second Information Revolution is important reading for anyone who needs to understand the functioning of American telecommunications, either to be able to analyse today's financial markets or to understand or influence public

policy in this area.--Wendy M. Grossman, Times Higher Education Supplement [UK]Reviews of this book: Brock traces a phenomenon he refers to as the 'second information revolution.' According to Brock, there have been two times in history when information technology has dramatically changed daily life. The first 'information revolution' occurred with the advent of the telephone and telegraph, which made communication less expensive and more readily available. The second information revolution is currently in progress.A concise, thorough, and well-written history of the transformation in exchanging and processing of information.--K. A. Coombs, Choice
